

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] The present application is related to commonly-owned U.S. Pat. No. 6,519,603, entitled "Method And System For Organizing An Annotation Structure And For Querying Data And Annotations", commonly-owned, co-pending application 10/083,075, entitled "Improved Application Portability And Extensibility Through Database Schema And Query Abstraction," commonly owned, co-pending application 10/310,192, entitled "Annotation Validity Using Partial Checksums," and commonly owned co-pending application, entitled "Heterogeneous Multi-Level Extendable Indexing For General Purpose Annotation Systems," filed herewith (~~Attorney Docket No. ROC920030127US1~~), which are herein incorporated by reference.